

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 SAJ-01 EB-07 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SAM-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /082 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6681

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 685

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EEC, EGEN, VS, EAID, EI

SUBJECT: US/EC CONSULTATIONS: EC FONMIN'S MEETING IN DUBLIN AND

LUXEMBOURG: VIET-NAM

1. NOEL DORR, IRISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR, AND HIS DEPUTY

JOHN CAMPBELL, BRIEFED US EVENING APRIL 16 ON VIET-NAM AND OTHER

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SUBJECTS OF EC FONMINS' RECENT DISCUSSIONS. VIET-NAM WAS MUCH THE

MOST IMPORTANT US/EC TOPIC (OTHERS SEPTTEL), AND DORR DID NOT ADD TO COMMENTS ALREADY MADE BY FONMIN FITZGERALD TO AMBASSADOR (DUBLIN 679). NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE PASSING ON DORR'S REMARKS AS OF POSSIBLE HELP TO DEPARTMENT OFFICERS CONSIDERING A RESPONSE TO THE EC.

2. AID: THE EC CONSIDERS THAT THE DECISIONS ON AID WHICH IT ADOPTED ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE US REQUEST. SEPTTEL PROVIDES TEXT OF AID TO BE PROVIDED BY EC AS A BODY. IN ADDITION TO THIS, EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WILL PROBABLY BE PROVIDING SOME BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

3. RECOGNITION: DORR THOUGHT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE TO ADD TO THE FORMAL EEC RESPONSE. AS FAR AS THE IRISH ARE AWARE, NO EC COUNTRY PLANS ANY SUDDEN STEPS ON RECOGNITION OF PRG. DORR WAS CAUTIOUS ON THIS POINT, OBVIOUSLY NOT WISHING TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DECISIONS BY THE OTHERS, BUT HE NOTED THAT ALL EC FONMINS ACCEPTED DR. FITZGERALD'S RESPONSE TO DR. KISSINGER. THERE IS ONE LEGAL POINT THAT NEEDS TO BE MADE: WHILE SOME EC STATES RECOGNIZE REGIMES, OTHERS RECOGNIZE ONLY STATES. IF, THEREFORE, PRG AND HANOI SHOULD AT ANY POINT CONTROL SOUTH VIET-NAM, SOME EC MEMBERS WOULD BE IN A POSITION OF AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION. DORR SAID THAT THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASNS FOR THE CAUTIOUS NOTE IN DR. FITZGERALD'S RESPONSE TO SECRETARY KISSINGER.

4. HALT TO MILITARY OPERATIONS: THIS WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF THE EC DISCUSSIONS. DORR STONGLY EMPHASIZED, AS FITZGERALD HAD DONE EARLIER, THAT ALL EC FONMINS HAD WELCOMED DR. KISSINGER'S MESSAGE. THEY WISHED TO STAY IN VERY CLOSE CONTACT WITH US ON THIS PROBLEM AND WISHED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS. AT SAME TIME, FONMINS DID NOT BELIEVE THAT AN APPROACH TO HANOI ALONE FOR A CESSATION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS WOULD MAKE ANY IMPACT WHATSOEVER. HANOI WOULD, DORR SAID, ALMOST CERTAINLY IGNORE SUCH A DEMARCHE, AND EC HENCE SAW NO POINT IN MAKING IT. BUT FONMINS DID NOT WISH TO REJECT US IDEA. IN DORR'S VIEW, THEIR RESPONSE TO US SAYS IN EFFECT: "WE AGREE THAT SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE BUT WE DO NOT THINK YOUR IDEA WOULD WORK UNLESS MODIFIED." EC PROPOSAL IS THAT, IF WE THINK USEFUL, THEY WOULD CONSIDER DEMARCH TO "ALL THREE PARTIES" IN THE VIET-NAM CONFLICT, CALLING BOTH FOR A CEASE-FIRE AND FOR NEGOTIATIONS FOR A LASTING POLITICAL SETTLEMENT

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BASED ON PARIS AGREEMENT. IN SUCH NEGOTIATIONS, SAIGON AS WELL AS OTHER PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY. DORR SAID THE EC HOPED WE WOULD SEE THIS PROPOSAL AS THE REACTION OF A LOYAL FRIEND WHO COULD NOT QUITE ACCEPT ONE OF OUR IDEAS AND WHO REPLIED WITH A PROPOSAL FOR SOMETHING THAT MIGHT WORK BETTER. THE EC HOPES FOR A RESPONSE FROM US ON THIS IDEA.

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